

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,892,962 (hereinafter "Cloutier") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,603,043 (hereinafter "Taylor") and U.S. Patent 5,682,491 (hereinafter "Pechanek"). Particularly, the Office Action asserts that all limitations of claims 1, 10, and 18 are taught by Cloutier, except for limitations in these claims relating to a plurality of removable complex arithmetic elements (CAEs), which is allegedly taught by Taylor, and except for limitations relating to the plurality of CAEs including a sequencer and an arithmetic unit, which is allegedly taught by Pechanek. Therefore, the Office Action concludes, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Cloutier, Taylor, and Pechanek to arrive at what is claimed in claims 1, 10, and 18.

Claims 1, 10, and 18 have been amended to state that each of the plurality of sequencers are to sequence data from a CAE memory to only the arithmetic unit to which the sequencer corresponds. Pechanek, on the other hand, not only fails to teach a CAE comprising a sequencer (see Figure 5b-9, for example, which depict a plurality of processing elements and one or more sequencers shared by a plurality of processing elements and not included within any particular processing element), but fails to teach a plurality of CAEs, each including a sequencer to sequence data to

only the arithmetic unit within the CAE in which the sequencer is included, as in presently amended claims 1, 10, and 18.

Furthermore, Pachenek teaches sending information to a processing element, which may or may not include an arithmetic unit. Either way, the information delivered to the processing element in Pachenek may be delivered to other elements in the processing element besides an arithmetic unit (to the extent the processing element contains an arithmetic unit).

The Examiner cites Figures 5a and 6a in support of the assertion that Pachenek teaches a plurality of CAE's including a sequencer to sequence data to only one arithmetic unit to which the sequencer corresponds. However, Figure 5a does not show a plurality of CAE's. Figure 5a only shows one configuration that the Examiner characterizes as a CAE. Figure 6a shows a number of arithmetic units **sharing** the same sequencer (or what the Examiner characterizes as a sequencer). However, the Examiner has failed to show support in Pachenek for the elements of claims 1, 10, and 18 allegedly taught by Pachenek.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that neither claims 1, 10, 18 as presently amended, nor any claim that depends from them, can be said to be obvious under Cloutier in view of Taylor and Pachenek. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance.

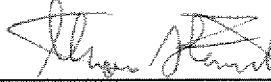
If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Erik Metzger at (512) 732-3922.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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